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LEXDEN AND WINSTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

Medical Officer of Health, 1951



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Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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Mr. A. E. FAIRHEAD

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Mr. H. C. PERCIVAL

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Mr. R. C. WAGSTAFF

Medical Officer of Health

W. H. ALDERTON, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector .. A. HURD, F.R.San.I.

Senior Assistant Inspector . . K. H. WHARTON, A.R.San.I.

Assistant Inspector .. H. L. AMES, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I.

Additional Inspector . . . F. G. LAMBERT, A.R.San.I.

Junior Assistant .. C. G. SMITH

Two Whole-time Clerks .. O. S. DALTON and Miss J. TUCKER

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Rebow Chambers,
Sir Isaac's Walk,
Colchester.
9th July, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1951.

As is usual the report is compiled in accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health.

This year I have included a little more information than usual, and I hope this will be found convenient for reference.

The Registrar-General now includes two comparability figures—one is for the birth rate and one for the death rate. This enables these rates to be compared with those of any other district. In the case of this District, owing to the excess of persons in the higher age groups, both figures are improved.

Both the birth rate and death rate are worse than last year, and indeed, the number of deaths exceeds the births by fifteen.

On the credit side the number of infant deaths, viz., two, is the lowest since records were kept.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking members of the Public Health Committee for their support and to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation and loyalty of my staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. ALDERTON.

Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Area (acres)							66,152
Registrar-General's	Estin	nate o	f Res	sident	Popula	tion	
(Mid 1951)	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	22,740
Number of Inhabite	ed hou	ses (en	d of 1	1951) a	ccording	g to	
Rate Books	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	7,119
Rateable Value							£143,290
Sum Represented by	a Pen	ny Ra	te				£592

Social Conditions

The population is mainly occupied in agriculture, although in the built-up areas there are factories and engineering works employing a small proportion of the population. The census figures when published in detail will give much interesting information on this subject.

EXTRACTS	FROM V	ITAL	STAT	ISTICS	OF	THE	YEAR
		Тс	tal	M.	F.		
r. D. (1 ()	Legitimate				126	Birth	Rate per
	Illegitimate			17	9		of resident
							ion=13.
							ed Birth
						Rate=1	14.4.
Still Births {	Legitimate		9	4	5		per 1,000
Doin Direns	Illegitimate			—	_	total bir	rths = 29.4.
Deaths .		3	12	160	152	Death	Rate per
							estimated
							popula-
						tion=1	ed Death
						Rate 10	
						10000 10	, 1.
Deaths from P	uerperal Ca	uses :					
		Ι	eaths	Rat	e per	1,000 to	otal Births
Puerperal Sepsi			_		•		
Other Puerpera	d Causes		—				
Death Rate of	Infants und	ler 1 y	ear of	age (2	deat	ths):	
All Infants							6.5
Legitimate Infa							6.7
Illegitimate In	_		_				
Deaths from							42
	Measles (Whooping	an ages	8) h (all :	anna)	• •	• •	
"	WHOOPIN	g Coug	n (an c	ages)	• •	• •	—
Doodha in Vari	aus Ama Cu		lanal a	A At At	۵) .		
Deaths in Vari	ous Age ui	ouhs (iocai	statistic	5) .	No	. of Deaths
Age 0— 1 yea	r						1
1— 2 yea	rs				• •		_
2— 5 yea	rs			• •			3
5—15 yea	rs						1
15—25 yea	rs	• •					4
25—35 yea	rs	• •			•		- 3
35—45 yea	rs	• •		• •	•		4
45—55 yea 55—65 yea		• •	• •		• •		17 38
65—75 yea		• •	• •	• •	•		86
75 and up					•		151
		•					
							308

The following table shows the approximate state of immunisation against diphtheria at December 31st, 1951:

Population 0-4 in	Population 0-4 inclusive			Number immunised			
1845			934			50.6	
Population 5-14 i	nclusive						
3009			2917			96	

National Assistance Acts, 1948-51

One person was removed to hospital under the above Acts. This was an old lady living in insanitary conditions, with no relations near. She was quite happy after admission, but she died some three months later.

Causes of Death

						Μ.	F.
Tuberculosis of I	Respira	tory	System		 	1	2
Cancer					 ٠.	20	22
Syphilitic Diseas	е				 	1	_
Diabetes					 	1	2
Leukaemia					 	1	1
Vascular Disease	of the	Ner	vous Sys	$_{ m tem}$	 	18	23
Heart Disease					 	63	62
Other circulatory	7 Disea	se			 	5	1
Influenza					 	-	7
Pneumonia					 	11	10
Bronchitis					 	13	6
Other Diseases o	f Respi	rato	ry Syster	n	 	1	1
Congenital Malfo	rmatio	\mathbf{n}			 	1	3
Motor Vehicle Ad	ccident				 	3	_
Other Accidents					 	1	4
Suicide					 	4	1
Other Causes					 	12	7
						1 = 0	
						156	152

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

The Medical Officer of Health: W. H. Alderton, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. He is also Medical Officer of Health to neighbouring Urban Districts and Assistant Medical Officer to the County Council.

The Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: A. Hurd, F.R.San.I. He is also a qualified Food Inspector. He devotes his whole time to the Council.

The Senior Assistant Inspector: K. H. Wharton, A.R.San.1. He devotes his whole time to the service of the Council. He is also a qualified Food Inspector.

The Assistant Inspector: H. L. Ames, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I. He is employed whole time by the Council and is also a qualified Food Inspector.

The Additional Inspector: F. G. Lambert, A.R.San.I.

Junior Assistant: C. G. Smith.

Two whole-time Clerks are employed: O. S. Dalton and Miss J. Tucker.

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological specimens for the district are sent to the laboratory at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester. Samples of water are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, in the case of bacteriological analysis and to the Counties Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, in the case of chemical analysis. Other samples of ice cream, food, etc., are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

Ambulance

Non-emergency ambulance calls are not accepted from the general public.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency it is merely necessary to lift the telephone receiver and ask for an ambulance. If there is a dialling system in operation dial "999," "0" or "01" and ask for an ambulance.

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Midwives.

Nursing in the Home.

Health Visiting.

Mental Welfare.

Home Helps.

Vaccination and Diphtheria Immunisation.

Provision of Nursing Equipment and Apparatus.

School Health Service.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the Health Services Clinic, Culver Street, Colchester, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held in the following villages:

Tiptree: First and third Fridays at The Bianca Hall, at 2 p.m.

Layer: Second Thursday at The Women's Institute, at 2 p.m.

Rowhedge: First and third Thursdays at the White Lion Assembly Room, at 2 p.m.

Abberton: Fourth Thursday at the Lion Hall, at 2 p.m.

Salcott: First Wednesday at The Old School, at 2 p.m.

Messing: First and third Tuesdays at the Village Hall, at 2 p.m.

Dedham: Second and fourth Thursdays at the Hewitt Hall, at 2 p.m.

Great Horkesley: First Wednesday at the Men's Social Club, at 2 p.m.

Boxted: Last Wednesday at the Social Club, at 2 p.m. **Fordham:** Second Friday at the Village Hall, at 2 p.m.

Marks Tey: Third Wednesday at the Labour Hall, at 2 p.m.

Great Tey: Third Tuesday at the Village Hall, at 2 p.m.

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic is situated at 3 Shewell Road, Colchester, and is open daily.

V.D.

Sessions held at the Essex County Hospital on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., for males and females. Fridays, 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., for females and children, 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., for males.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA WATER

Abberton and District Water Supply

This supply has been sufficient in quantity and satisfactory in quality. It is a chlorinated supply. The number of samples taken for examination was:

Chemical, 4.

Bacteriological, 12 (which included one sample of raw water from the borehole).

One sample, although satisfactory, showed slight deviation from

normal; this was accounted for in the sampling.

An extension to this supply has been made passing through the Urban District of West Mersea to the Parish of East Mersea, a distance of six miles. 71 houses in the parish of East Mersea have been connected.

Agreement has been reached with West Mersea Urban District. whereby houses on the mainland situated in the Urban District are supplied, also houses north of the road leading from the Strood to East Mersea and houses south of this road and within 300 feet of the centre of it. 22 houses in this Urban District have been connected to the mains.

In addition an agreement of mutual aid as far as water supplies are concerned has been reached by the two authorities.

Abborton Public Supply

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance—Bright with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity—Less than 3.

Colour—Nil. Odour—Nil.

pH—8·1. Free Carbon Dioxide—4.

Electric Conductivity—2700. Total solids—1700. Chlorine present as Chloride—720. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—340.

Hardness Total—105. Carbonate—105. Non-Carbonate—0. Nitrate Nitrogen—0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen—Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen—0.91. Oxygen absorbed—0.15. Residual Chlorine—Absent.

Metals: Iron—0.04. Other metals—absent.

Bacteriological Report

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 2 days 37° C. aerobically—0 per ml. Plate Count Yeastrel agar 3 days at room temperature—1.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37° C.—

0 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli—0 per 100 ml. Bacteriological findings highly satisfactory.

Coine and Stour Valley Supply

The water from this supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. It is a hard water, which is softened before passed into supply. It is also chlorinated. The number of samples taken for examination was:

Chemical, 4.

Bacteriological, 12 (this included one sample of the raw water from the borehole).

All samples were satisfactory without reservation.

Four extensions were completed on this supply, namely:

A typical analysis of this water is given below:

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance—Very faint opalescence with a very slight deposit of iron oxide.

Colour—Filtered—Nil.

Turbidity—3.
Odour—Nil.

pH—7·4. Free Carbon Dioxide—17.

Electric Conductivity—930 Total Solids—620. Chlorine present as Chloride—140. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—295.

Hardness—Total 190. Carbonate—190. Non-carbonate—0. Nitrate Nitrogen—0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen—Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen—0.000. Oxygen Absorbed—0.10. Albuminoid Nitrogen—0.000. Residual Chlorine—Absent.

Metals: Iron—0.42. Other metals—Absent.

Bacteriological Report

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 2 days 37° C. aerobically—4 per ml.

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 3 days at room temperature—9.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37° C.— 0 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli—0 per 100 ml. Bacteriological findings very satisfactory.

East Donyland Supply

This supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity, it is a chlorinated supply.

The number of samples taken for analysis was:

Chemical, 4.

Bacteriological, 11 (including one of the raw water from the borehole).

Two samples, though satisfactory, showed a little deviation from the normal, each being attributed to the sampling.

There were no extensions made to this supply.

A typical analysis is given below:

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance—Bright with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity-Less than 3.

Colour—Less than 10.

Odour-Nil.

pH-7.9.

Free Carbon Dioxide-6.

Electric Conductivity—2100.

Total Solids-1320.

Chlorine present as Chloride-500. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate-330.

Hardness—Total 150. Nitrate Nitrogen-0.0. Ammoniacal Nitrogen—0.82.

Carbonate—150. Non-carbonate—0. Nitrite Nitrogen—Less than 0.01.

Oxygen Absorbed—0.35.

Albuminoid Nitrogen-0.000.

Residual Chlorine—Absent.

Metals: Iron—0.07. Other metals—Absent.

Bacteriological Report

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically—0 per ml.

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 3 days at room temperature—5.

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37°C .-0 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli—0 per 100 ml.

Bacteriological findings highly satisfactory.

Tiptree Supply

This supply has proved satisfactory in quality during the year. It is a chlorinated supply. The number of samples taken for examination was:

Chemical. 4.

Bacteriological, 13 (including one taken from the borehole before treatment).

All samples were reported satisfactory without reserve.

This undertaking is, however, giving cause for concern. After an overhaul of the pumps it was found that when worked to their full capacity the water was lowered beyond their reach.

Provisionally the speed of the motor of one pump has been reduced, with a consequent reduction in output and efficiency. The Council's Engineers were at the same time consulted. As a result the Council decided to augment the water supply in the Tiptree area, and that a test pumping should be made of the present borehole. An extension of 110 yards was completed in Stores Lane, also one of 40 yards at the Birch Housing Site.

A typical analysis of this supply is given below:

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance—Very faint opalescence with very few mineral particles.

Turbidity—Less than 3.

Colour—Filtered, Nil. Odour—Nil.

pH—7·5. Free Carbon Dioxide—12.

Electric Conductivity—930. Total Solids—620. Chlorine present as Chloride—128. Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate—265.

Hardness—Total 165. Carbonate—165. Non-carbonate—0.

Nitrate Nitrogen—0.0. Nitrite Nitrogen—Less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen—0·40. Oxygen Absorbed—0·10. Albuminoid Nitrogen—0·000. Residual Chlorine—Absent.

Metals: Iron-0:18. Other metals-Absent.

Bacteriological Results

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C. aerobically—3 per ml.

Plate Count Yeastrel agar 3 days at room temperature-11.

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.— 0 per 100 ml.

Probable number of faecal coli—0 per 100 ml.

Bacteriological findings satisfactory.

The following table shows the number of dwellinghouses and the population supplied from public mains or standpipes for each parish in Lexden and Winstree:

	•			37 6	Population
			Dav	No. of ellinghouses	supplied from mains
Abberton				70	210
Aldham	• •	• •	• •	82	287
Bergholt, West	• •	• •		294	1028
Birch				176	615
Boxted		• •	• •	248	867
Chappel			• •	128	447
Colne, Wakes			• •	122	427
		• •	• •	222	776
Dedham (by Ten				339	1186
Donyland, East				408	1428
Eight Ash Green				172	602
TD 1				155	542
Fordham				147	513
Horkesley, Great				248	868
Horkesley, Little				42	146
Langham				138	483
T T				66	230
Langenhoe				63	220
Layer-de-la-Haye)			200	699
Layer Marney				64	224
Mersea, East	.·.			71	248
Messing-cum-Inw	orth			176	625
Mount Bures				49	171
Peldon				106	371
Salcot				81	283
Stanway				455	1592
Tey, Great				120	419
Tey, Marks				278	997
Tiptree				712	2492
Virley				15	52
Wigborough, Gre				50	175
Wigborough, Litt	le			9	31
Wormingford				200	699

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

1st March, 1952

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LEXDEN AND WINSTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report of work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1951.

I also attach report showing the progress made in dealing with the houses classified as Unfit under the Rural Housing Survey.

INSPECTIONS

n Acts				526
1936			• •	103
er notice	(visits tl	reto):	
	• •		• •	943
				3881
nspected	• •			
				• •
		• •		
logical Ex	aminatio	n		
${f cteriologic}$	al Exan	inatio	on	• •
CDECTION.	IC AND	A CITT	ION TO	A TETAL
SPECITOR	ם אוא פו	ACI	ION I	ANEN
			•• "	5
				0
• • •			• •	5
				0
				ction
				ot to
	ertaking	s not	to use	for
ncelled				
ry) Priva	te Enter	prise		
	and the second of the second o	er notice (visits the second of the second o	er notice (visits thereto	er notice (visits thereto):

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Parish	No. of Cat. 5 Houses on Com- pletion of Survey	Properties down graded to Cat. 5	Houses Demo- lished	Houses subject to Demo- lition Orders	Houses subject to under- takings under Sec. 11, Housing Act, 1936	Houses made Fit	Cat. 5 Properties remaining at 31.12.51
Abberton Aldham Bergholt, West Birch Boxted Chappel Colne, Wakes Copford Dedham Donyland, East Easthorpe Eight Ash Green Fingringhoe Fordham Horkesley, Gt. Horkesley, Lt. Langenhoe Langham Layer Breton Layer-de-la-Haye Layer Marney Mersea, East Messing-cum- Inworth Mount Bures Peldon Salcot Stanway Tey, Great Tey, Marks Tiptree Virley Wigborough, Gt. Wigborough, Lt. Wormingford	4 — 9 35 13 4 19 7 23 555 3 17 10 14 1 6 17 7 16 6 8 14 9 24 4 15 36 — 12	1 2 - 3 - Inclu 2 - 2 2 1			1		3 -6 17 1 4 8 7 13 10 1 7 5 11 1 6 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10 4 10
Totals	413	11	93	31	25	43	232

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

ALBERT HURD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING

The year has shown a slight improvement in the housing situation. The number of houses built in the year (95) shows an increase of 38, compared with the previous year. 77 of this number were built by the Council.

As there are still 460 families on the waiting list for Council houses, five years will elapse at the present rate of progress before the last family on the present list is dealt with. The policy of considering families occupying huts on airfields equally with other applicants has reduced the number occupying such huts in the Council's jurisdiction to 199.

It is a great pity that certain huts which were too badly positioned to be taken over were allowed by the Air Ministry to be occupied. Living conditions in some of these huts were bad, especially in regard to lighting and ventilation. Greatest concern, however, was for the children who had to live in these gloomy places.

On the debit side were 18 houses it was necessary to represent under the Housing Act, 1936, as being unfit for human habitation. It is found, however, that there is always someone who is prepared to spend an unreasonable sum of money to render such houses fit.

Sewage Disposal

East Stanway Sewerage Scheme made considerable progress during the year. As the work progressed approval was obtained for two sections of the sewer previously deleted to be included. These were the sewerage of Lucy Lane and Halstead Road.

Tiptree extended area scheme was started during the year and made good progress.

Dedham sewage works received further consideration as a result of continued unsatisfactory analyses of the effluent. The engineers' estimate of £3,900 for improvements to the disposal works was approved. These additional works would be so designed that they would not become obsolete if extensions to the drainage system were embarked upon at a future date.

Other sewage works are in operation at Peldon Agricultural Camp and at Wakes Colne, Birch and Wormingford Airfields.

East Donyland is sewered in the built up part of the parish, but the sewage is pumped into the Colchester Corporation Sewer and treated at their disposal works.

A new departure has been embarked upon in connection with the Council Housing Sites. Where twelve or more houses are erected on a site, a small sewage treatment plant is installed capable of dealing with all the drainage from the site. Housing sites which have so far benefited are Birch, Peldon, Fingringhoe, Boxted and West Bergholt.

Meat and Other Foods

The inspection of carcases is undertaken at the Colchester abattoir, where animals destined for this district are slaughtered. Inspection of food shops and bakeries, etc., has been carried out regularly. Notices have been issued to occupiers of food shops for display, recommending the public not to take their dogs into such places.

Samples of ice cream have been taken for examination at frequent intervals, the results proving satisfactory.

The following foods were condemned and surrendered during the year:

 Pork
 ...
 ...
 $148\frac{3}{4}$ lb.

 Mutton
 ...
 ...
 $4\frac{3}{4}$ lb.

 Beef
 ...
 ...
 ...
 18 lb.

 Cheese
 ...
 ...
 ...
 16 4 o

 Cheese
 ..
 ..
 16
 4 oz. cartons

 A.D. Vermicelli
 ..
 14
 1 lb. packets

Various foods 56 tins and 34 bottles

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

As will be seen from the table overleaf, the most prevalent diseases were measles and whooping cough. In spite of the large number of cases there were no deaths from either disease.

Measles lasted from January to the end of August, after which odd cases occurred.

In March, April and May, cases were most numerous with 72, 78 and 97 notifications respectively.

Table of Notifiable Disease

	0-1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5–15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45–65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	Total	Cases admit- ted to Hos- pital
Scarlet Fever	_	7	21	1	_	_	_	29	4
Measles	5	147	278	7	5	_		442	9
Pneumonia	1	5	6		4	11	6	33	4
Whooping	n								
Cough	9	65	40		_	1	_	115	4
Dysentery		3	4	1		1	_	9	_
Puerperal	N .		_			_			
Pyrexia	M 1				3			3	
Erysipelas					_	8	2	2	2
Infective									
Hepatitis			1		1	2	1	5	
nepatitis			1		1	4	1	9	
	15	227	350	9	13	15	9	638	23
	10	201	300	9	13	10	9	000	23

Table Showing Incidence of Tuberculosis in 1951

A During	Non-Pulmonary
Age Period Pulmonary	Non-r unnonary
M. F.	M. F.
0—1 — —	
1-5 1	2 1
5—15 — —	1 1
15—25 — 1	
25—35 1 1	
35-45 1	
45—55 3 1 *1	
55—65 3 *1 —	
over 65 — 1 *1	
8 5	3 2

In the above tables, deaths in the various age groups are marked by *

MOSQUITO NUISANCE

Visits were paid to likely breeding grounds during the year. Larvae were found at East Mersea, where the owner of the land co-operated in their destruction.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspections have been made at the various factories, and the defects observed have been dealt with.

The following table gives details of the work done:

Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health

(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

	Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices
(i)	Factories in which Sections, 12, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	50	26	4
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	83	59	1
		133	85	5

Cases in which Defects were Found

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	2 1 1 3	2 1 — 3
	7	6

Outwork

Wearing apparel, Lampshades	Nature of Work				No. of Outworkers on August List	
	, maki 	ng, etc.			• •	$\frac{27}{2}$
						29

